20 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Guided Missiles Task Force

SUBJECT: CIA/RR GP 61-36:L, Area of the USSR Observed During the Period [redacted]

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Transmitted herewith are two copies of the subject report, prepared in answer to your request for an updating of our CIA/RR GP 60-38:L, Area of the USSR Observed During the Period from [redacted]

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[redacted]
Chief, Geography Division
Research and Reports

Enclosure:
CIA/RR GP 60-38:L (2 copies)

Distribution:

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CIA/SR GP 61-16:L
16 March 1961

[redacted] OF THE USSR OBSERVED DURING THE PERIOD [redacted]

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I. Introduction

This report provides an estimate of the extent of the area of the USSR that has been observed visually by Western intelligence sources during the period [redacted]. The statistical tables give estimates not only for (1) the USSR as a whole but also for (2) those parts of the USSR that are physically suitable for missile deployment and for (3) each of eight preselected priority regions in which missile deployment is believed to be most likely. For each of these categories the total mileage traveled by rail has also been tabulated separately because of the importance of rail facilities in missile deployment. The air and surface (road, waterway, and rail, combined) routes traveled have been plotted on the accompanying map, which also shows the eight priority regions (see Map 29845, following p. 5).

II. Estimates

It is estimated that only 1 percent of the total land area of the USSR was visually observed by Western intelligence sources between [redacted]. Approximately 1.8 percent of the total land area considered physically suitable for missile deployment was observed. Among the priority regions, Region 4 ranked highest in percentage of area observed -- 6.7 percent. Region 1 ranked lowest of the 8 regions, with only 0.5 percent observed. Although 37

percent of the total rail route miles in the USSR have been traveled during this period, it is estimated that observation was limited to only 7.4 percent of the mileage traveled. Table 1 gives for each category the total land area, and also gives estimates, in terms of that area percentage, of the area that was observed.

Table 1

Estimated Area Observed in the USSR

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	Total Land Area (sq. mi.)	Estimated Area Observed (sq. mi.)	Percent of Total Land Area Observed
USSR	8,547,000	88,577	1.0
Parts of USSR Suitable for Missile Deployment a/	4,764,200	85,290	1.8
Priority Areas	2,081,000	51,802	2.5
Area 1	467,800	2,385	0.5
Area 2	315,600	8,268	2.6
Area 3	170,700	4,021	2.4
Area 4	195,600	13,123	6.7
Area 5	290,700	14,389	4.9
Area 6	469,800	6,543	1.4
Area 7	108,000	2,430	2.3
Area 8	62,800	643	1.0

a. The figure used for the total land area suitable for missile deployment was determined by subtracting from the total area of the USSR the areas considered to be unsuitable for missile deployment because of difficulties of construction and logistics.

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Railroad Route Mileage Traveled by Western Observers in the USSR

	Total Route Miles	Route Miles Traveled	Route Mileage Traveled (percent)	Estimated Route Mileage Observed (percent)
USSR	72,000	26,204	37.2	7.4
Parts of USSR Suitable for Missile Deployment	75,400	27,620	36.6	7.3
Priority Areas	46,000	19,299	42.0	8.4
Area 1	6,200	1,945	31.4	6.3
Area 2	8,300	3,939	47.5	9.5
Area 3	3,000	990	33.0	6.6
Area 4	22,000	9,204	41.8	8.4
Area 5	4,000	2,019	50.5	10.1
Area 6	1,250	615	49.2	9.4
Area 7	1,250	587	47.0	9.4
Area 8				

III. Methodology

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The estimates of areas observed were derived in the following manner.

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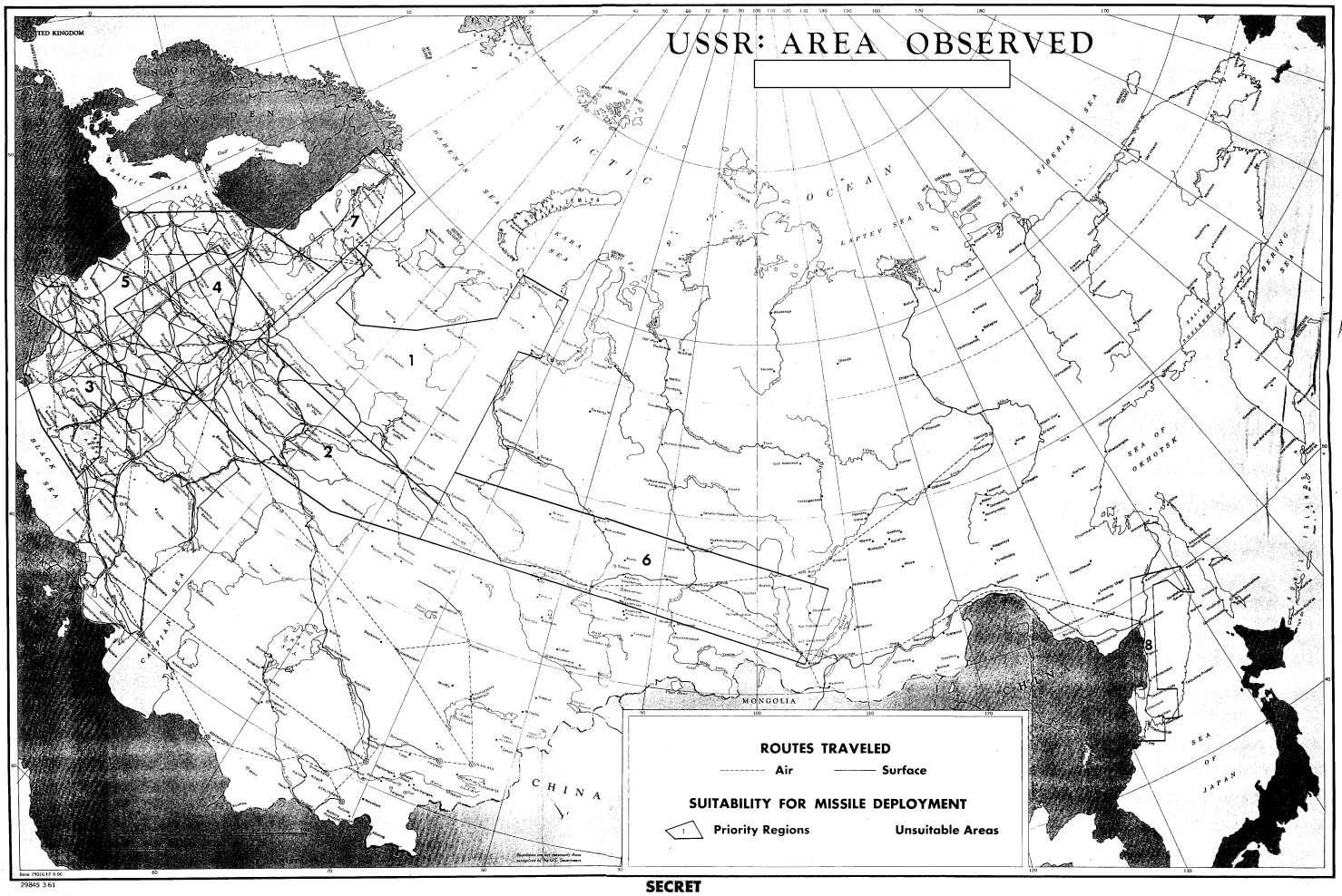

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